Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 XMB-02

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R 050531Z NOV 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN SPECIALTY STEEL PROBLEM

REF: VIENNA 9953

1. PRESENTATION MADE BY TRADE MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN SUPPORT OF A COUNTRY ALLOCATION FOR AUSTRIA REPORTED REFTEL MUCH ALONG THE LINES OF THAT MADE BY BIRBAUM AUSTRIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON IN RECENT REPRESENTATION ON THIS SUBJECT MADE TO STR AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. ISSUES RAISED BY PROPOSED REVISION OF OTHER COUNTRY ALLOY TOOL STEEL ALLOCATION TO MAKE A SEPARATE QUOTA FOR AUSTRIA (THERE ARE THREE OTHER SIGNIFICANT SUPPLIERS IN THE BASKET) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARE NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION. DECISION ON THIS MATTER

IS BEING DEFERRED PENDING RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH BIRBAUM HAS UNDERTAKEN TO SUPPLY NEXT WEEK.

2. WE UNDERSTAND AUSTRIAN CONCERN REGARDING EFFECT OF RESTRAINTS ON THEIR TRADE IN ALLOY TOOL STEEL WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE PROBLEM OF NOT BEING ABLE TO DELIVER ALLOY TOOL STEEL BECAUSE THE QUOTA IS EXHAUSTED IS NOT UNIQUE TO AUSTRIA. COUNTRIES WITH SEPARATE ALLOCATIONS HAVE ALSO BEEN REQUIRED TO WAREHOUSE THEIR SHIPMENTS WHEN THEIR QUOTA HAS BEEN FILLED. KISSINGER

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